AMENDMENTS TO DRAWINGS

The attached sheet of drawings includes Figs. 1-17. These sheets have corrected text that was partial, occluded, or cut off in the original figures.

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

I. DRAWINGS

The drawings have been objected to. Applicant has attached replacement Figs. 1-17. The figures have been replaced with figures with complete text. The previous figures had text that was partial, occluded, or cut off.

II. STATUS OF CLAIMS

Claims 1-46 remain in this application. Claims 10, 22, 33, and 45 have been canceled. Claims 1-5, 7-9, 11-17, 19-21, 23-28, 30-32, 34-40, 42-44, and 46 have been amended.

III. CLAIM REJECTIONS – 35 U.S.C. § 103

The Office Action rejected Claims 1-3, 11-15, 23-26, 34-38 and 46 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over White et al. (5,983,274) in view of Menezes et al. (Handbook of Applied Cryptography) and further in view of Clark et al. (Bits: a smartcard protected operating system).

The Office Action states that Claims 5-10, 17-22, 28-33, and 40-45 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claims and any intervening claims. Applicant has amended independent Claims 1, 12, 24, and 35 too include the elements of Claims 10, 22, 33, and 45, respectively. Therefore, Claims 1, 12, 24, and 35 are allowable.

Claims 2-3, 11, and 13-15, 23, and 25-26, 34, and 36-38, 46 are dependent upon independent Claims 1, 12, 24, and 35, respectively. Therefore, Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner withdraw the rejection under 35 U.S.C. §103(a).

IV.   CLAIM REJECTIONS – 35 U.S.C. § 103

The Office Action rejected Claims 4, 16, 27 and 39 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over White et al. (5,983,274) in view of Menezes et al (Handbook of Applied Cryptography) and further in view of Clark et al. (Bits: a smartcard protected operating system) and further in view of Angelo et al. (6,581,162).

The rejection under 35 USC §103(a) is deemed moot in view of Applicant's comments regarding Claims 1, 12, 24, and 35, above. Claims 4, 16, 27 and 39 are dependent upon independent Claims 1, 12, 24, and 35, respectively. Therefore, Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner withdraw the rejection under 35 USC §103(a).

V.   ALLOWABLE SUBJECT MATTER

The Office Action states that Claims 5-10, 17-22, 28-33, and 40-45 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claims and any intervening claims. Applicant has amended independent Claims 1, 12, 24, and 35 too include the elements of Claims 10, 22, 33, and 45, respectively. Therefore, Claims 1, 12, 24, and 35 are allowable.

VI. MISCELLANEOUS

Applicant respectfully requests that a timely Notice of Allowance be issued in this case.

The Applicants believe that all issues raised in the Office Action have been addressed and that allowance of the pending claims is appropriate. Entry of the amendments herein and further examination on the merits are respectfully requested.

The Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at (408) 414-1080 ext. 214 to discuss any issue that may advance prosecution.

No fee is believed to be due specifically in connection with this Reply. To the extent necessary, Applicants petition for an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136. The Commissioner is authorized to charge any fee that may be due in connection with this Reply to our Deposit Account No. 50-1302.

Respectfully submitted,

HICKMAN PALERMO TRUONG & BECKER LLP

Dated: June 6, 2005

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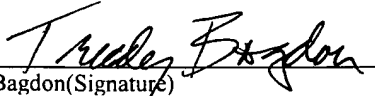Facsimile No.: (408) 414-1076

Attachments

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P. O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

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on June 6, 2005   by _____
(Date)   Trudy Bagdon(Signature)